

September 14, 2012

Weekly Views

Pendleton Correctional Facility (PCF) Superintendent Keith Butts has announced that he will be retiring after proudly serving the Indiana Department of Correction for 33 years. Superintendent Butts has accepted a position with GEO and will assume the duties as Superintendent of the New Castle Correctional Facility on October 8, 2012. Staff at PCF will certainly miss Superintendent Butts and want to wish him continued success as he embarks upon this new phase of his correctional career.

Towers Production hosted a Premiere Party at the Madame Walker Theater for the upcoming series *Parole Diaries*, which follows Parole Agents and parolees from Indianapolis Parole District #3. Staff from PD#3, IDOC Central Office, Towers Production, TV One, and

distinguished guests, including radio personality Amos Brown, enjoyed a sneak preview of the second episode in the series. At the end of the screening, the room erupted in a standing ovation. *Parole Diaries* premiered on TV One on Wednesday, September 12. Twelve new episodes will follow each Wednesday at 10:00pm EST. Please consult your local cable or satellite listings. (See photo right of PD#3 staff following the *Parole Diaries* premiere)
<http://www.tvoneonline.com/shows/parole-diaries.html>



Putnamville Correctional Facility's Indiana Thoroughbred Retirement Foundation (INTRF) was the recipient of the first Racing Legacy Fund Grant ever awarded by the Indiana Horse Council Foundation. INTRF received the \$2,500 grant in recognition of the facility's contribution to the training, rehabilitation and adoption of retired, thoroughbred race horses. Barbara Holcomb, INTRF Coordinator and Equine Management Instructor, has overseen the re-training of 73 horses, 39 adoptions and graduated over 80 offenders since the program's inception in 2007.

Indianapolis Re-Entry Educational Facility (IREF) Indiana Veterans Education and Transition (INVET) Unit donated two dollhouses to the Hemophilia of Indiana. Hemophilia of Indiana Director Briana Zieke stated the dollhouses will be used to raise funds for specialized medicine for children, which can cost more than \$250,000 a year. INVET Resident Denver Claywell designed both houses (a pink country cottage, and a blue beach cottage), which includes spiral staircases, and rocks gathered from IREF grounds that were used as foundations for the houses. (see photo below of Ethany Wilson and Briana Zieke, representatives from Hemophilia of Indiana, checking out the dollhouses)



A special graduation took place at the Wabash Valley Correctional Facility for 82 Purposeful Living Units Serve (PLUS) participants who successfully completed the 16 month faith and character based program. Since the program began at Wabash in late 2005, PLUS participants have donated over \$37,500 to a wide variety of charitable causes throughout Wabash Valley. A special presentation was made to Wabash Valley Big Brothers/Big Sisters just in time for the upcoming holiday season! 228 quilts and 225 Christmas stockings were presented to Jeanne Etheridge of Big Brothers/Big Sisters. Ms. Etheridge presented the PLUS unit with a special appreciation certificate in thanks for its ongoing support.

The Correctional Industrial Facility (CIF) hosted "Christmas Behind Bars" with Lemuel Vega. Mr. Vega, a former offender himself, began the group over 15 years ago after being released from prison and becoming a Christian. Approximately 1300 offenders from CIF attended the program. Gift bags were distributed to the offenders at the conclusion of event.

Pendleton Juvenile Correctional Facility Superintendent Linda Commons announced the promotions of Correctional Officers Joshua Roe and Brandi Speights to Sergeant. Superintendent Commons remarked that, "Sergeant Roe has demonstrated great leadership and role modeling for the youth in the Future Soldier Program and we see that skill as a plus as he moves into a supervisory role with staff. Sergeant Speights has continuously demonstrated a positive attitude toward her work. As a member of the Promoting Positive Corrections Culture for the facility, she has demonstrated the ability to impact the culture for the betterment of all."

The Prison Greyhound handlers welcome new arrivals to the Putnamville Correctional Facility. Carmella (2), Banjo (3), Luna (3) and Denny (6) made the long journey from the Daytona race tracks to Indiana for socialization and adoption. (See photo right)

